

Message

**From:** Gagnon, Kenneth W [Kenneth.Gagnon@state.ma.us]  
**Sent:** 9/1/2009 12:25:59 PM  
**To:** Annie.Khan [Annie.Khan@state.ma.us]; Bruce.Aspeslagh [Bruce.Aspeslagh@state.ma.us]  
**CC:** Charles.Salemi [Charles.Salemi@state.ma.us]  
**Subject:** RE:

We see levamisole in greater than 50% of cocaine cases. This includes everything from kilo samples to street "Crack bags" suggestion that it comes into the country with the levamisole in it. Usually the levamisole is in apparently relatively low concentrations in comparison to cocaine as indicated by MS response for the drug. ( We don't quant the levamisole in any cocaine samples.)

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**From:** Aspeslagh, Bruce (SRC) [mailto:Bruce.Aspeslagh@state.ma.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2009 8:03 AM  
**To:** Khan, Annie (DPH); Gagnon, Kenneth (POL)  
**Cc:** Salemi, Charles (DPH)  
**Subject:**

Annie,

Below is early correspondence re: "AMINOREX", a DEA C1 drug which turns out to be a metabolite of "LEVAMISOLE", a non-scheduled sheep wormer!

**RELEVANCE: SEE: <http://news.google.com/news/search?pz=1&ned=us&hl=en&q=levamisole>**

>>> [REDACTED] 3/7/2007 12:42 PM >>>  
Fellow Racing Analysts:

I believe there is a connection, in Massachusetts, between the finding of Aminorex and the presence of Levamisole in harness equine urines.

For several years, we have been running a very simple BU/GC/MS screen on all horse urines.  
(9 mL Base Urine-> 25 uL EtOAc, 2uL neat inj. followed by auto-library search and manual review of resulting data)

In August, 2006, we had a library hit (qual=90) by BU/GC/MS for Aminorex, which was easily confirmed. This sample also had levamisole in it.

We DO NOT prohibit levamisole. We DO record it's presence on BU/TLC records and BU/GC/MS Library search results reviews. We see parent and numerous metabolites as a series of spots on BU/TLC's and several easily identified peaks on the BU/GC/MS screen.

Recognizing that other jurisdictions had multiple Aminorex findings, and we had only one, I later began a retrospective analysis of previously acquired BU/GC/MS data files in an attempt to target Aminorex by looking at single ion chromatograms (56, 118, 162). All samples had been previously cleared as 'negative'.

I found evidence for Aminorex at the correct Rt. in numerous samples.

All samples with possible Aminorex also contained levamisole and/or metabolites

by BU/TLC and BU/GC/MS.

I have not yet found Aminorex in any sample that did not have Levamisole present.

All urine samples from last year for which the presence of levamisole was recorded by review of test data BU/TLC and BU/GC/MS were saved for possible further study. We are re-extracting (9 mL or 18 mL Base Urine-> 10 uL EtOAc, 2uL neat inj.) and running GC/MS on more concentrated extracts for these samples and there is no question that there is aminorex in these samples.

My concern; Is there a connection, what is the connection?

Is Aminorex being compounded with levamisole and being sold nationwide/worldwide?

Is some other substance being compounded with levamisole?  
Or, is there a metabolic pathway for levamisole --> aminorex?

If you have reported Aminorex, is there levamisole in the sample?

Do you see levamisole by your testing protocols? If 'yes', please look for Aminorex by a simple BU/GC/MS screen.

Your thoughts? Get back to me by email, [REDACTED]

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P.S. My harness meet starts on 3/19/07.

Related from the WEB:

3/6/07 - Most recent!!! Ontario Vet suggests link between Tetramisole/Aminorex  
<http://www.racehorsesdrugs.com/forum/index.php?act=Print&client=printer&f=12&t=2109>

1/24/07-2/24/07 - This link is for a horsemen's discussion forum, topic:  
Aminorex ... interesting reading. Asking for a survey of all products,  
including wormers, used by trainers with Aminorex positives  
<http://juniorstips.proboards4.com/index.cgi?board=Guest&action=print&thread=1169665419>

3/5/07 - And this link titled "Source of Aminorex"; Cambridge Isotopes accused  
of illegally manufacturing d,l-Aminorex  
<http://www.racehorsesdrugs.com/forum/index.php?act=Print&client=printer&f=1&t=2105>

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